

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) Antenna, in particular a mobile radio antenna for a base station, ~~having the following features~~ comprising:

- at least one electrical or electronic component ~~(319)~~ is positioned in the antenna housing ~~(307)~~ or immediately adjacent to the antenna housing ~~(307)~~ and is connected for RF purposes to the antenna elements ~~(315)~~ which are associated with the antenna ~~(301)~~,
- the electrical connection between the component ~~(319)~~ and the antenna elements ~~(315)~~ is being made via an interface ~~(321)~~, such that at least two inner conductor sections ~~(7a, 9a)~~ and/or two outer conductor sections ~~(7b, 9b)~~ are coupled or can be coupled without any contact,
- an antenna-side connecting section ~~(7)~~ and a connecting section ~~(9)~~, which interacts with it and is part of the component ~~(319)~~ which can be connected, ~~are provided,~~ and
- wherein the components ~~(319)~~ which can be connected to the antenna for RF purposes can be connected by pushing in or pushing out the at least one associated connecting section ~~(9)~~ into or out of the correspondingly designed antenna-side connecting section ~~(7)~~.

2. (Currently amended) Antenna according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein both the inner conductor sections (~~7a, 9a~~) and the outer conductor sections (~~7b,~~
~~9b~~) of the at least two connecting sections (~~7, 9~~) of a connector are formed coaxially.

3. (Currently amended) Antenna according to Claim 1 ~~or 2~~, ~~characterized in that~~
wherein the two connecting sections (~~7, 9~~) are provided with one or more spacers (~~51,~~
~~51a, 51b, 53, 53a, 53b~~) in the area of their outer conductor coupling surfaces (~~107a, 109a~~)
and/or their inner conductor coupling surfaces (~~107a, 107b~~), via which the inner
conductor sections (~~7a, 9a~~) and/or the outer conductor sections (~~7b, 9b~~) are held spaced
apart.

4. (Currently amended) Antenna, in particular a mobile radio antenna for a base
station, ~~having the following features comprising:~~

- at least one electrical or electronic component (~~319~~) is positioned in the
antenna housing (~~307~~) or immediately adjacent to the antenna housing (~~307~~) and is
connected for RF purposes to the antenna elements (~~315~~) which are associated with the
antenna (~~301~~),
- the electrical connection between the component (~~319~~) and the antenna
elements (~~315~~) is being made via an interface (~~321~~), such that at least two inner
conductor sections (~~7a, 9a~~) and/or two outer conductor sections (~~7b, 9b~~) are coupled or
can be coupled without any contact,

- an antenna-side connecting section (7) and a connecting section (9), which interacts with it and is part of the component (319) which can be connected, ~~are provided,~~
- the two connecting sections (7, 9) ~~can be~~ positioned with respect to one another via a holding device in an axial and/or radial relative position which can be predetermined, and
- wherein the inner conductor and outer conductor sections (7a, 9a; 7b, 9b) which are respectively provided with the inner conductor coupling surfaces (107a, 107b) and with the outer conductor coupling surfaces (109a, 109b) are arranged in their functional position, without touching and without any insulating materials and/or any solid dielectric located between them.

5. (Currently amended) Antenna according to one of Claims 1 ~~to 4~~, **characterized** ~~in that~~ wherein the component (319) which is to be connected can preferably be connected and disconnected by pushing it in and out, respectively, after opening a closing cap or a closing cover, or a bottom boundary or some other housing boundary on the relevant interface (311) to the antenna elements (301) in the antenna housing (307).

6. (Currently amended) Antenna according to one of Claims ~~1 to 5~~, **characterized** ~~in that~~ wherein the two connecting sections (7, 9) can be rotated relative to one another about their concentric coaxial longitudinal axis, and/or in that the two connecting sections (7, 9) can be connected axially to one another in a different relative rotation position

about their concentric coaxial longitudinal axis, and/or in that the two connecting sections (7, 9) are designed to be rotationally symmetrical, or essentially rotationally symmetrical, about their axial axis.

7. (Currently amended) Antenna according to one of Claims 1 to 6, **characterized** ~~in that~~ wherein the inner conductor coupling without any contact is in the form of a pot (109).

8. (Currently amended) Antenna according to one of Claims 1 to 7, **characterized** ~~in that~~ wherein the outer conductor coupling without any contact is in the form of a pot (109).

9. (Currently amended) Antenna according to one of Claims 1 to 8, **characterized** ~~in that~~ wherein the axial length of the inner conductor sections (7a, 9a) which are coupled without any contact corresponds to $\lambda/4$, preferably $\lambda/4 \pm$ less than 20%, preferably $\lambda/4 \pm$ less than 10%, and in particular of approximately or at least approximately $\lambda/4$ with respect to the frequency band to be transmitted, preferably with respect to the mid- frequency to be transmitted.

10. (Currently amended) Antenna according to one of Claims 1 to 8, **characterized** ~~in that~~ wherein the axial length of the outer conductor sections (7b, 9b)

which are coupled without any contact corresponds to $\lambda/4$, preferably $\lambda/4 \pm$ less than 20%, preferably $\lambda/4 \pm$ less than 10%, and in particular of approximately or at least approximately $\lambda/4$ with respect to the frequency band to be transmitted, preferably with respect to the mid- frequency to be transmitted.

11. (Currently amended) Antenna according to one of Claims 1 to 10, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein one inner conductor section (7a) is formed like a pot (109), forming an inner conductor recess (17) which extends axially from its end face, into which inner conductor recess (17) that inner conductor section (9a) which is electrically connected to the other connecting section (9) can be inserted without touching it.

12. (Currently amended) Antenna according to one of Claims 1 to 11, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the outer conductor section (9b), which is located in the coupling area, of one outer conductor (9b) is widened in the form of a pot with a larger internal diameter, to be precise holding the outer conductor section (7b) of the other connecting section (7) which interacts with it.

13. (Currently amended) Antenna according to Claim 12, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the outer conductor section (7b) of one connecting section (7) ends in the area of the outer conductor coupling surfaces (107a, 109a) without changing its external and/or internal diameter.

14. (Currently amended) Antenna according to Claim 12 ~~or 13~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the internal and/or external diameter of the outer conductor section (7b) corresponds to the internal and/or external diameter of the other outer conductor section (7b).

15. (Currently amended) Antenna according to one of Claims 1 ~~to 14~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein two or more preferably coaxial connecting sections (7 and 9) without any contact are combined to form a common multiconnector section.

16. (Currently amended) Antenna according to one of Claims 1 ~~to 15~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein at least one of the two connecting sections (7, 9) of the connector, or both connecting sections (7, 9), has or have an O-ring, preferably composed of silicone, which is provided in the area of the outer conductor coupling.

17. (Currently amended) Antenna according to one of Claims 1 ~~to 16~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the maximum axial insertion depth of the two connecting sections (7, 9) is limited by using an insulating spacer (51, 53).

18. (Currently amended) Antenna according to one of Claims 1 ~~to 17~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein at least one connecting section (7 or 9, respectively) is

directly firmly connected to an RF component (~~1 or 1', respectively~~) which is associated with it.

19. (Currently amended) Antenna according to Claim 18, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein both connecting sections (~~7, 9~~) of a connection (~~5~~) are directly and firmly connected to the RF component (~~1, 1'~~) which is respectively associated with them, that is to say they are connected both electrically and mechanically.

20. (Currently amended) Antenna according to one of Claims 1 ~~to~~ 18, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein at least one connecting section (~~7, 9~~) and preferably both connecting sections (~~7, 9~~) is or are connected or can be connected via a coaxial cable (~~3, 3'~~) to an RF component (~~1, 1'~~) which is associated with it or them.

21. (Currently amended) RF connector according to one of Claims 1 ~~to~~ 18, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the size of the diameter of the inner conductors (~~7'a, 9'a~~) which are provided axially adjacent to the inner conductor coupling surfaces (~~107a, 109a~~) of the connecting sections (~~7, 9~~) which are to be connected without any contact is at least approximately, and preferably, the same.

22. (Currently amended) RF connector according to one of Claims 1 ~~to~~ 20, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the internal diameter of the outer conductors (~~7'b, 9'b~~)

which are provided axially adjacent to the outer conductor coupling surfaces (~~107b~~, ~~109b~~) of the connecting sections (~~7~~, ~~9~~) which are to be connected without any contact is at least approximately, and preferably, the same.

23. (Currently amended) RF connector according to one of Claims 1 to ~~21~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the external diameter of the outer conductors (~~7'b~~, ~~9'b~~) axially adjacent to the outer conductor coupling surfaces (~~109a~~, ~~109b~~) is at least approximately, and preferably, the same.

24. (Currently amended) RF connector according to one of Claims 1 to ~~19~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the connection without any contact has different diameters for the inner and outer conductors (~~7a~~, ~~7b~~; ~~9a~~, ~~9b~~).

25. (Currently amended) RF connector according to one of Claims 1 to ~~24~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the connection without any contact with respect to the first connecting section (~~7~~) and the second connecting section (~~9~~) has the same characteristic impedance \pm less than 20%, preferably \pm less than 10%, in particular approximately the same characteristic impedance.

26. (Currently amended) RF connector according to one of Claims 1 to ~~25~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein at least one connecting section (~~7~~) has a coaxial cable

which on the outside has an insulating cable sheath (71), and in that the outer conductor (9b) of the other connecting section (9) clasps the cable sheath (71) with the outer conductor (7b), which is located underneath it, of the first connecting section (7) when they are inserted in one another.

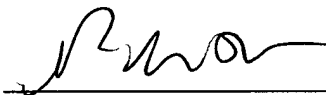
REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants have amended the claims to delete multiple dependencies, to delete reference numerals and to make additional wording changes.

Applicants await an early action on the merits. If the Examiner finds this case is not now in condition for allowance and believes that an interview prior to first action would be helpful in focussing and/or resolving issues, applicants request the Examiner to contact their representative at the telephone number listed below to arrange a telephonic or personal interview.

Respectfully submitted,

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